



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

PUT IT DOWN

WHEREAS, in the United States, 3,331 people died in crashes involving a distracted driver in 2011, and another 387,000 were injured, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, in Florida, 2,400 people died in crashes in 2011, and another 19,978 were seriously injured; and

WHEREAS, as of December 2012, 171.3 billion text messages were sent in the U.S. every month; and

WHEREAS, texting while driving takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds and is suspected as a contributing factor in a number of traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, the state's largest wireless providers, including AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, and T-Mobile, are to be applauded for the initiative they have taken to alert drivers to the dangers of texting and driving with the "It Can Wait" campaign; and

WHEREAS, Florida law, effective October 1, 2013, prohibits operating a motor vehicle in motion while manually typing into a wireless communication device; and

WHEREAS, if drivers would "Put It Down" and wait until they are stopped before texting and driving, distracted driving crashes would decrease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing October 1, 2013, as *Put It Down*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 27th day of September, in the year two thousand thirteen.



Governor